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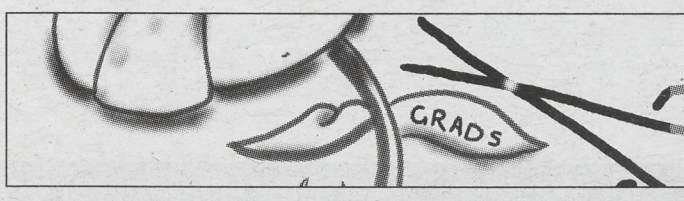

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

DAILY 49ER

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CSU, CFA to return to bargaining table in early May

The faculty union will continue its strike vote.

By Zien Halwani
Editor in Chief

The Cal State University and the California Faculty Association will return to the bargaining table in early May, CSU Vice Chancellor of Human Resources Gail Brooks said in a statement sent to student media Tuesday.

CFA spokesman Brian Ferguson said, although "any ongoing negotiation would be viewed as positive," the union would continue its strike authorization vote.

Talks broke down between the two organizations in November and the state labor board certified an impasse sending the negotiations to a mediator.

Before Tuesday's announcement, bargaining between the CFA and the CSU was set to enter a fact-finding stage.

"Our desire is to reach a negotiated settlement," said Erik Fallis, a CSU spokesman.

Resolution may save ASI fee revenue

The resolution would end employer contribution to ASI retiree health benefits.

By Julie Chung
Staff Writer

Associated Students Inc. approved a resolution that may prevent student fees from increasing in order to cover the medical costs of benefits for Cal State Long Beach employees on its first reading last Wednesday.

The resolution would make the student government organization no longer subject to the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act.

The act mandates public agencies

ASI | Page 2

Jessica Mendoza | Daily 49er

Karissa Jones, journalism major, aims for the target to sink Cesar Roldan, kinesiology major, during the dunk tank event on upper campus yesterday in support of the nonprofit organization Donate Life California.

Donate Life spreads awareness of need for organ, tissue donation

The organization hosted an event yesterday with a dunk tank, prizes.

By Anthony Garza
Staff Writer

About 50 students gathered outside Peterson Hall 1 for an opportunity to win prizes and submerge volunteers into a dunk tank in between classes on Tuesday.

Sean Pellerin, graduate student and host of KBeach's 3Up 3Down show, created the event with nonprofit organization Donate Life, to spread awareness about the need for organ and tissue donation.

"Who doesn't like a dunk tank?" Pellerin said. "It's something you can see from afar and publicizes something far better than a flyer."

Organ and tissue donation is a sensitive subject that hits close to home with Pellerin.

"Donate Life was an organization that tried to help my friend's father when he was in need of an organ," Pellerin said. "He passed away because they were unable to find a donor."

According to Donate Life, more than 100,000 people are on a waiting list for organ transplants and, every 13 minutes, a name is added to the transplant waiting list.

Pellerin advertised Donate Life on his radio show and has been planning the event for months.

"I've gone to fraternities and sororities to publicize the event to get a bigger turnout," Pellerin said. "This all came together in the last week and a half."

The radio show host got a donor sticker on his driver's license as soon as he got it.

"If I can help someone else live when I'm dead, that would be pretty cool," Pellerin said.

Tuesday was the first time Pellerin teamed up with Donate Life to spread awareness on this topic, but he is no stranger to volunteer work.

"I like doing community work and volunteering," Pellerin said. "I like doing feel-good things for people

Dunk Tank | Page 2

CSULB students win Texas moot court event

The duo will move on to regional and national championships.

By Jerilynn Johnson
Contributing Writer

Cal State Long Beach political science majors Ryan Chapman and Yasmin Manners won the Texas State undergraduate moot court championship tournament held at the University of North Texas on March 30 and 31.

Moot court, also known as a mock Supreme Court and Supreme Court simulation, is the simulation of an appellate court proceeding. The participating teams consisted of two individuals who argue a hypothetical legal case known as the competition case.

Students are questioned by moot court judges and are graded on the basis of their knowledge of the case, their responses to questioning, their forensic skills and demeanor.

"Moot court's a very challenging program because it's not only testing a person's intellectual and speaking ability, but that person's level of confidence," Manners said.

CSULB's moot court is ranked as the third best program in the nation.

The program has produced almost too many lawyers to count, moot court Director Lewis Ringel said. It has yet to produce a judge because it is not old enough, but Ringel said he believes that day will likely come.

Ringel said he is pleased with his team's performance in Texas.

"It was sensational," he said. "I am very proud of [Chapman and Manners]. But I was not surprised. They always handle themselves well, and they did what I thought they would do when I paired them back in November. They won. In fact, they won a lot — all seven rounds. They went undefeated."

Chapman agreed that the experience in Texas was great, but that it could, at times, be exhausting.

"In hindsight, it's great that we got to go out there and represent both California and CSULB and show a large group of students, professors and professionals that our school has a program that can win," Chapman said.

Chapman and Manners, both juniors, are aiming to become the second CSULB team to win a regional and/or national championship and plan on returning to Texas next year to defend their title.

Moot Cout | Page 2

Bretta Oaks

The Beach Paintball intramural sports team won the College Paintball National Championships in Florida on Sunday.

Paintball team wins championship

The team is the first on the West Coast to get national honors.

By Jacqueline Sosa
Staff Writer

Beach Paintball, a Cal State Long Beach intramural sports team, took the cup at the 2012 National Collegiate Paintball Association (NCPA) College Paintball National Championships in Florida on Sunday afternoon.

The intramural team defeated more than 100 other schools in the championships, becoming the only team on the West Coast to ever win the tournament, according to Erik Muto, president of Beach Paintball

The team beat Ohio State University, University of Connecticut and West Point Army during the A division's first game of preliminaries on Friday

The competition continued for the next two days, with the top 12 schools moving on to play against each other on Saturday.

The semi-finals and finals were then held on Sunday.

Muto said not all of the tournament's expenses were covered so the team held its first local beginner tournament as a means of paying for things, such as the cost of airfare, gas and food.

Beach Cup, the beginner tournament, was held at Action Star Games, where the team practices.

Professional paintball player Jon Millman, who coached the team at the NCPA national championship game, started the team about five years ago.

Since then, the team has been a leader in the paintball community.

The first year the paintball team was established, they won the AA division at the 2008 NCPA Nationals. For the last two years, they have placed second in the A division.

Beach Paintball is composed of two elements: the tournament team and the recreational club. This is aimed at promoting the growth of the sport, Muto said.

The recreational club has no fees and introduces the sport by hosting games once a month.

The tournament team plays in local regional tournaments and finishes the year by competing in nationals. It also requires a $25 yearly fee from each member.

Everyone is encouraged to play. The team has players ranging from those who have never picked up a paintball gun to professional paintball players like Corey Bornstein and Chris Tarhen.

The club meets once a week in the University Student Union.

Dunk Tank

Continued from Page 1

rather than going after people's money."

Donate Life is also holding a 5K run and 1K walk at Cal State Fullerton on April 28. Pellerin is hoping to have students sign up for the event, so that he can lead a Cal State Long Beach team.

"There is someone out there who is connected to family and friends who will live because of [organ and tissue] donations," Pellerin said. "We have the opportunity to save someone else's life. It's like being a small hero in this big world."

CSULB Moot Court

Ryan Chapman, second from right, and Yasmin Manners, third from right, won a Texas undergraduate moot court championship.

Moot Court

Continued from Page 1

Wyatt Lyles, a senior political science major, competed in the Western Regional in moot court last fall.

"The most challenging thing for moot court is all the preparation prior to tournaments," Lyles said. "We have about 20 cases in the record of the moot court problem that we have to know the ins and outs of."

Other CSULB moot court accomplishments include being national champions in 2003 and reaching the national Sweet Sixteen in 2005, 2009, 2011 and 2012.

ASI

Continued from Page 1

agree to "contribute a portion of the cost of providing ... [health] benefit coverage" to approved benefit plans employees are enrolled in.

"I definitely see the importance of making these financial decisions," said Stephen Thomas, ASI vice president. "Going along with this trend, all of our student fee revenues for these benefits wouldn't be able to provide any other services."

In August 2000, ASI chose to be subject to the act in order to provide medical benefits for retired employees, according to Richard Haller, ASI executive director.

The resolution will only apply to employees hired on or after Jan. 1 2013, not current employees.

As of the end of the last fiscal year, the cost of life-long medical benefits for retired employees was projected to be over $5.6 million, Haller said.

ASI is electing to no longer be required to support these medical benefits because they cannot afford to.

Student fee revenues are going up as CSULB employee benefit-costs continue to rise. This resolution seeks other alternatives for providing employee medical benefits.

Thomas said, if the resolution is passed, student fees can be used for something else that will benefit students.

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California State University, Long Beach
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Masturbator 'yanked' from library

By Jessica Rosales
Staff Writer

A student was caught masturbating at a computer station in the Spidell Technology Center in the University Library on April 11 around 12:35 p.m., Brown said.

The reporting party had described the suspect as an Asian man in his late 20s with black, spiked hair, wearing a brown striped shirt and jeans, Brown said.

Although University Police made contact with the suspect, he was only cited because there was not enough evidence to arrest him, Brown said.

Lion head replica damages fountain

A lion's head sculpture was found in the Lymon Lough Fountain located near Brotman Hall on April 10 around 1 p.m., University Police Capt. Scott Brown said.

The heavy lion head replica caused $500 of damage to the seal that protects the fountain from leaking to the room below it, which happens to be a computer lab, Brown said.

University Police believe the sculpture incident is linked to a fraternity on campus.

Man with banjo harasses student

A student received annoying phone calls at his or her on-campus workplace from an unwanted visitor on April 12, Brown said.

The suspect was described as a white man in his late 40s who had a straw hat, cane and small guitar or banjo, Brown said.

The man apparently visited the University Student Union frequently and made a student employee feel uncomfortable, Brown said.

University Police have yet to make contact with the suspect and are keeping an eye out for anyone matching his description.

Students fight over a boy

Two students were reported for disturbing the peace in the RLC dorms on April 10 around 6 p.m., Brown said.

The incident occurred when a student's ex-girlfriend was visiting the dorms and saw the student's current girlfriend and decided to confront her, Brown said.

The boyfriend, who was the subject of the argument, was not at the scene and received a text message about the confrontation.

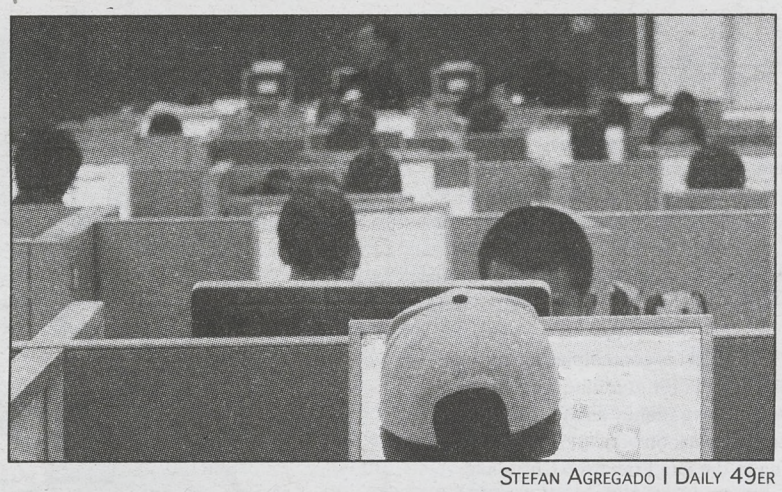
He then informed University Police, who arrived on scene as the ex-girlfriend was leaving the area.

The verbal confrontation did not turn violent, but restraining orders may soon be in place for the involved parties, Brown said.

Intoxicated student on campus

A suspicious vehicle was found in Parking Structure 2 on April 8 around 3 a.m., Brown said.

The vehicle was found to be occupied by intoxicated people, including one CSULB student, Brown said. University Police cited the student and then called a taxi so the intoxicated people could be released off campus.



Stefan Agregado | Daily 49er

A man was caught masturbating in the University Library.

Stolen items

A license plate was stolen from a 2006 Ford vehicle in the Parkside Dining Hall parking lot on April 6 before 12 p.m., Brown said.

The vehicle was owned by the 49er Shops and the license plate has no value, Brown said.

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(Eco)uture fashion show turns trash into treasures

The show will be held on April 24 at 12:30 p.m.

By Jenny Lee
Staff Writer

The Cal State Long Beach Environmental Science and Policy Club is working with fashion design and merchandising students to host their first eco-fashion show on Tuesday.

The (ECO)uture Environmental fashion show is organized to spread awareness about being green. Plastic bags, cardboard and many other everyday recyclable objects will be manipulated and reused as clothing.

The club wanted an event that would capture a wide audience, according to Brianna Pagan, president of the Environmental Science and Policy Club.

"Our motivation was the idea of expanding Earth Week 2012, by reaching out to more than just the environmental science and policy majors on campus," Pagan said.

> *"There are so many [Do It Yourself] tutorials out there to teach people to reduce their waste by turning trash into treasure."*
>
> **-Brianna Pagan, president of the Evironmental Science and Policy Club**

Clothing companies, such as H&M, have released eco-conscious clothing lines that inspired the fashion show, organizers said.

"There are so many ways to turn something old into something new," Pagan said. "We wanted to share this with other students."

The fashion show will be divided into two scenes: up-cycling and recyclables.

Up-cycling involves making a new outfit out of old materials. It encourages students to think about ways they can revamp their wardrobe on a low budget while also being eco-friendly, organizers said.

For the recyclables scene, designers will create outfits out of plastic bags, cardboard, bottle caps and various other recyclable materials. The club hopes this will make people think twice before they consider something trash.

"There are so many [do-it-yourself] tutorials out there to teach people to reduce their waste by turning trash into a treasure," Pagan said. "The next time you go to throw something out, think of how it can be reused. There are earrings made from cork stoppers and necklaces made from paper clips and tape, and they all look wearable."

For the eco-fashion show, the club is doing more "behind the scenes" work: organizing, planning and working out all the details of the performance while fashion students will have a platform to show off their designing skills, according to Pagan.

"Everyone's career path can benefit from becoming a bit more sustainable, so we decided to team up with students in [Fashion Merchandising and Design] and show that they can make their desired field eco-friendly," Pagan said.

"The fashion students have lots of experience," she said. "They see designing and clothes in a much more elaborate way, and it really shows through their creations."

In the future, the club hopes to work with a more diverse group of students to show how every major can "go green."

"Companies everywhere are starting to invest in ways to lessen their impact," Pagan said. "CSULB is taking measures to reduce its carbon footprint through the American Colleges and University Presidents Climate Commitment. If students have the resources and knowledge to become greener, it might be advantageous in their career paths."

The (ECO)uture Environmental fashion show will be held from 12:30 to 1 p.m. on April 24 at the Speaker's Platform across from the University Bookstore.

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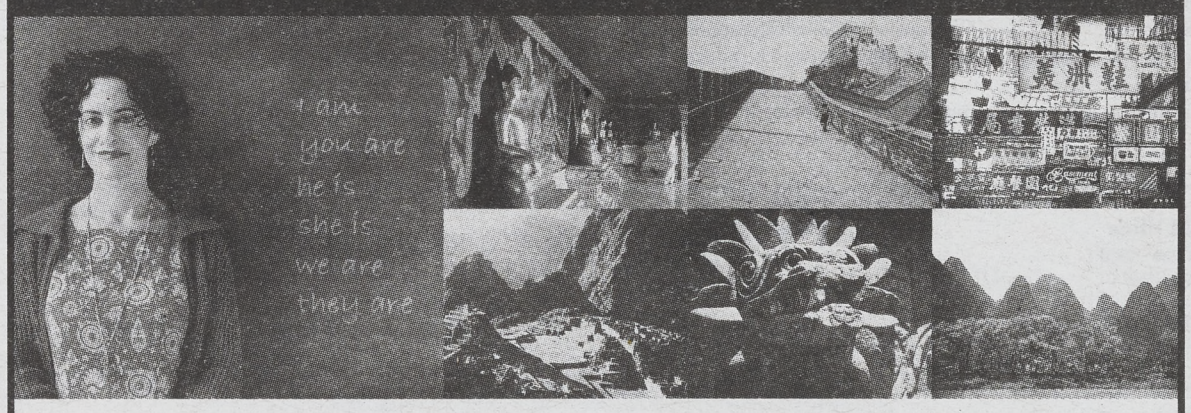

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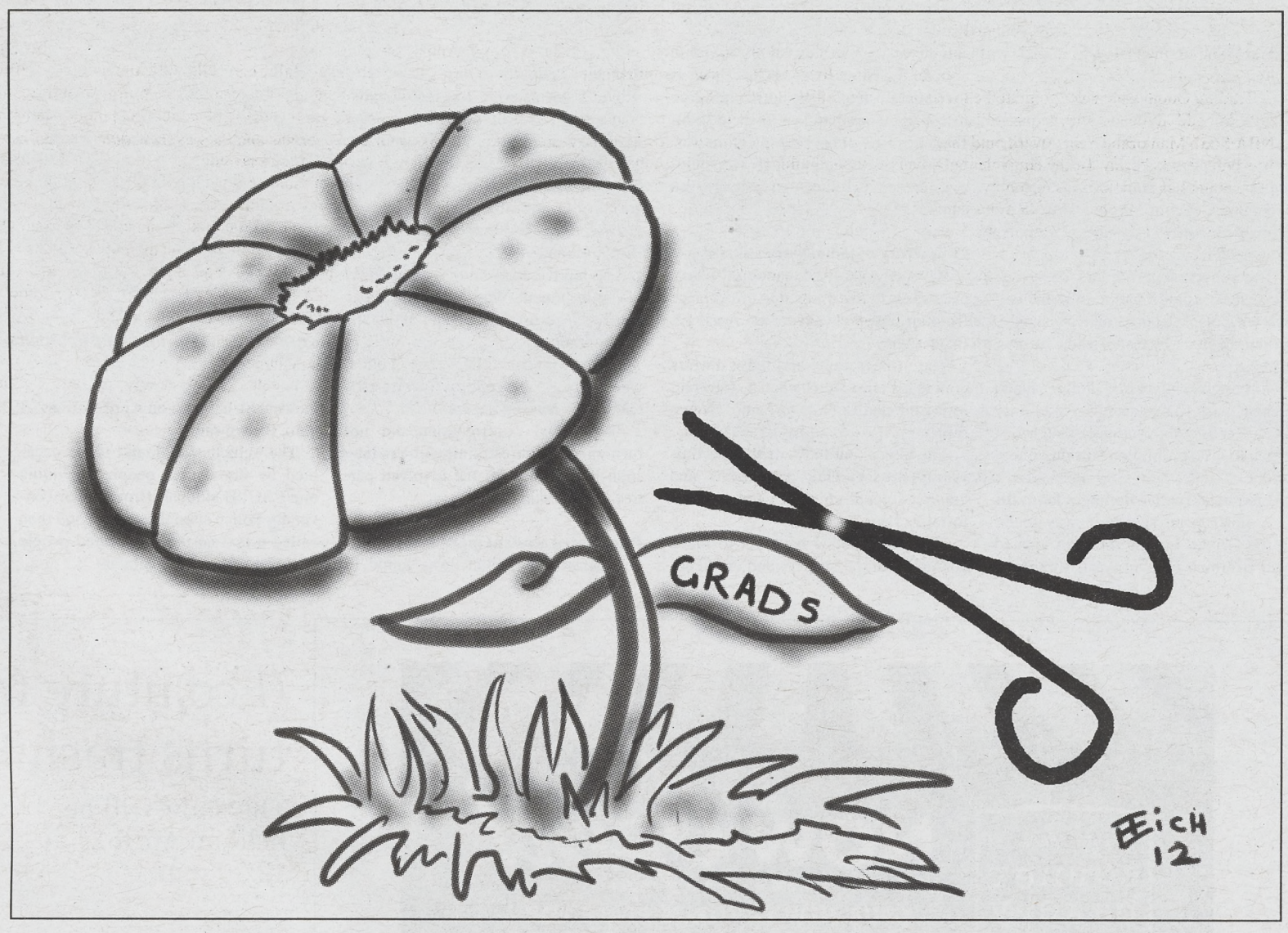
California State University, Long Beach

Cutting grants for grads may be necessary



Next year, CSU graduate students may not receive financial aid. Pending a decision on Wednesday, nearly half of qualified graduate students will not receive aid for the 2012-2013 year.

Our View

The CSU is contemplating ending cash grants for graduate students as a way to save money as the state keeps cutting back on education. According to the San Francisco Chronicle, graduate students from all the CSU campuses have already received email notices, informing them that their grants may be cut next year.

The grants will be replaced by a loan with a 6.8 percent interest rate. Currently there are about 40,000 graduate students who qualify for the grants. Cutting the grants will mean a $90 million loss to nearly 20,000 students. That's a huge number that is meaningful to both sides.

$90 million will help fund a lot of students. Graduate students already miss out on Pell Grants and Cal Grants since only undergraduates qualify for that money. But at the same time, that's a huge amount of money to save in a time when education is strapped for cash.

The CSU system is facing nearly $200 million in losses for next year in addition to the $750 million it lost this year. There is always a scramble to recoup yearly losses, and this is just the newest way to do it.

Unfortunately for graduate students, this may not be a one-time cut. Executive director for the California Student Association, Miles Nevin says the cuts are definitely going to happen.

"As far as we know, it's a done deal," Nevin said. "The funds are being pulled and being placed somewhere else. We just don't know where."

CSU students have already known about the challenges the system has faced and have dealt with numerous cuts and fee increases. Times are tough, and if the CSU system has to cut funds, maybe cutting from graduate students is a good place.

Cutting grants altogether for undergraduates would be a terrible decision, since more students would be hurt by it. The pool of graduate students is a lot smaller than the undergraduate population so, even though thousands of students will be affected, it will be a smaller hit.

Certain professions require students to go to graduate school. So those students will have to take the hit. It is unfair, but schools are running out of options at this point. When it comes to taking money from graduates or undergraduates, taking money from graduates is the lesser of two evils.

Eliminating grants will give students another factor to consider when applying for graduate school. In this economy, not many students can afford to go to graduate school even with grants. If grants are taken out of the picture, there will be even less of an incentive to go. If you were trying to get a master's degree in history of Spanish, maybe the best choice would be to skip graduate school or apply to schools in another state.

Hopefully, students will not have to face such tough decisions. The CSU presidents will meet Wednesday to discuss what to do with graduate funds. Hopefully they will not do such a disservice to the students.

Universities need to break the Long Beach College Promise

Leonardo Poareo

Long Beach is lucky to be home to a major college like Cal State Long Beach. The university provides excellent opportunities for the community, as evidenced by the Long Beach College Promise, which is basically an assurance on behalf of the three school systems in Long Beach to provide a smoother path to college for Long Beach residents. Long Beach's end of the deal features "guaranteed admission for local students who meet minimum CSU and CSULB admission requirements."

While this has opened a path to college for local residents, it has also posed many problems for people residing outside of the designated Long Beach area who want to obtain their degree from CSULB. If justice and opportunity are to be upheld, CSULB's guaranteed admissions policy needs to be scrapped.

CSUs are meant to serve the entire state, not simply the communities in which they reside. Each school does have a designated service area, but this is in place for the purpose of providing information and resources regarding the CSU system, not by favoring one community over another.

Yet different CSUs, along with CSULB, have policies that guarantee admissions to local residents if they meet the minimum requirements. This is incongruous with the CSU system's mission of providing an affordable education to qualified Californians.

Not only is this practice a perversion of the system's purpose, it's also unjust.

This guarantee essentially favors one set of students over another purely on the basis of their location. A 2010 article in the Daily Breeze reported that most Lakewood High students were accepted to CSULB while only 42 percent of students from a Torrance school were accepted, even though the students from the Torrance school performed better. Why? Long Beach students aren't more deserving simply because they go to school in Long Beach; after all, the school system is statewide, not a local one run by the city of Long Beach.

CSULB exists to provide a good education to Californians and its closest neighbors, not just people who happen to be educated in the city.

Moreover, this preferential practice hinders opportunities for students outside of the area. Students in the South Bay do have the opportunity to attend a marginally closer school, CSU Dominguez Hills, but this college doesn't have all of the programs that CSULB has, and certain programs at CSULB might even be better.

Yet because of Long Beach State's arbitrary policy, certain students don't have the opportunity to receive the education they deserve.

Instead, less than deserving Long Beach residents pick up those opportunities.

In short, there is no real justification for favoring students from Long Beach over others who might be more qualified.

Admission to CSULB isn't a birthright. Students who have better grades than their competitors should earn it.

Leonardo Poareo is a senior journalism major and a contributing writer for the Daily 49er.

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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

Lamar Odom should not be allowed to return to the Lakers

LAWRENCE MAYBIR

It's been months since the decision to trade Lamar Odom to the Dallas Mavericks was ridiculed by Laker fans.

Trading Odom was never going to be loved by fans, but add in the fact that he just collected the NBA Sixth Man of the Year Award, and that he was being traded away for the equivalent of a bag of peanuts. Laker nation was in frenzy.

Since the initial uproar, the NBA has been subject to an uninspired, ineffective, and out of shape Odom.

The Mavericks put him on the inactive list for the remainder of the season, and when the season ends, he will be shipped out to the highest bidder.

For Laker fans, hindsight has never looked so good.

And yet, even after Odom has had the worst season of his entire career, chatter of bringing the former Laker back to Los Angeles has already exploded on blogs and sports radio.

But, like Odom's efficiency, this chatter needs to fade away quickly.

Lamar Odom was an integral ingredient in getting those back-to-back championships in 2009 and 2010. However, the seven-footer Laker fans came to love is simply not the same player.

Last season Odom was MVP of the Lakers' second unit. He provided an instant spark whenever he entered the game, and made his presence known with his height and agility.

This season, Odom has averaged dismal career lows in points, rebounds, assists, and shooting percentage.

Those stats would qualify Odom as a bad pickup for any team in the league. But, his issues on the court are only half the problem.

It's Odom's antics away from the court that are raising the biggest red flag.

What some Laker fans seem to be forgetting is what started Odom's downward slope in the first place. Odom himself requested to leave Los Angeles.

The wheels began falling off following the now-infamous attempted trade at the beginning of the season, which included Odom being sent to the New Orleans Hornets and the Lakers acquiring all-star point guard Chris Paul.

The NBA commissioner vetoed this trade a few hours after completion, and left the Lakers and all players involved in an uncomfortable position.

However, most players eventually put the failed trade behind them, and got back to focusing on basketball.

Lamar Odom skipped the Lakers' first practice of the season and immediately followed that stunt by having a one-on-one meeting with Mitch Kupchak. It was during this meeting that he requested to be traded from the Los Angeles Lakers immediately.

Unlike the others involved in the trade, Odom failed to understand that the NBA is a business.

Unlike the rest of the traded players, Odom forgot that the possibility of being traded is something that comes along with those million dollar checks. And unlike the others involved in the trade, Odom let his emotions send his career into a free-fall.

According to Tim MacMahon of ESPNDallas.com, Odom's short-lived episode with the Mavericks will "go down as one of the biggest disgraces in Dallas sports history because he wouldn't even do the simplest thing in sports: play hard."

Although Staples Center is near Hollywood, Odom's soap opera shouldn't be allowed near this town ever again.

Lamar Odom ran himself out of Los Angeles, and hopefully for Laker fans, that's where this drama ends.

Lawrence Maybir is a senior journalism major and a contributing writer for the Daily 49er.

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'Forbidden Broadway' hilarious, perfect for theatre lovers

The show has spoofs of modern and older Broadway productions.

By Jackie Rosas
Staff Writer

Where can you see Carol Channing, Barbara Streisand, and all the hysterical idiosyncrasies of Broadway on one stage? That would be Musical Theatre West's production of "Forbidden Broadway: Greatest Hits, Volume 2," which opened last weekend at The Carpenter Performing Arts Center.

Back by popular demand, this new production of the long-running off-Broadway series has returned for another show filled with laughs and jabs at all the wonders of The Great White Way. This production features parodies from classic musicals such as "The Sound of Music," "West Side Story" and "Beauty and the Beast." It is also filled with new surprises, like a parody of the new production of "Evita," featuring Ricky Martin.

The production is played out on an empty stage that holds only the piano and silver fringe curtains. Cartoon drawings and lights frame the simple set. Also on the stage is a "Forbidden Broadway" sign that keeps audience members aware that they are watching a show. During many instances, the characters speak directly to the audience while singing a parody of their misfortunes. The show also features interactive scenes, like a sing-a-long portion during the scene about Stephan Sondheim.

This show is presented in a cabaret revue style that features four principal performers. The cast is comprised of Susanne Blakeslee, David Engel, Valerie Fagan and Larry Raben, who gracefully run this marathon of a show.

Even through all of the quick changes, dancing and hitting of high E notes, every member of the cast keeps the energy up and filled the room with laughter.

The many spot-on impersonations done by Blakeslee throughout the show are the most notable comedic moments. Her Carol Channing and Julie Andrews as Maria Von Trapp impersonations are vocally and visually perfect. She impressively replicates the voices of these iconic actresses to a tee.

Every scene includes a new song that parodies a Broadway musical, star or trend. In order to portray each character, the performers wear hilarious new costumes. The costumes are complete with wigs, ball gowns, complex makeup and, even at one point, Engel in full drag for a "La Cage aux Folles" scene. These quick changes enhance the show's hilarity since they replicate the originals so well and set the mood for each new parody.

Ken Jacques

(From left) Larry Raben, Susan Blakeslee, David Engel and Valerie Fagan perform in "Forbidden Broadway: Greatest Hits, Volume 2."

Director William Selby also incorporates some funny blocking enhancements as well. The scene that spoofs "Les Miserables" features the performers tripping and flying off on an invisible turntable. In the scene that parodies "Wicked," Fagan spoofs the character Elphaba's infamous flight while "Defying Gravity" by simply standing on a crate.

One especially funny and surprising scene involves the musical director and on-stage pianist, Matthew Smedal. After a few moments of dealing with mean auditioners, he bursts out into a musical lament that cries, "I'm sick of playing their songs."

The entire show is filled with hilarious moments that many theatre performers or lovers could relate to. Such issues are addressed, such as the high prices of tickets, hitting high notes and performing in a production of "Cats."

"Forbidden Broadway: Greatest Hits, Volume 2" will run until April 29 at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center. Performances start at 8 p.m. with matinee performances on April 15, 21, 22 and 29. There is a 7 p.m. performance on April 22. Tickets range from $17 to $85. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit musical.org.

Campus Calendar

April 18

USU anniversary
The University Student Union will celebrate its 40th anniversary all day with events, including food coupons, giveaways, a mechanical bull and more. Admission is free.

Student art galleries
The art department presents BFA Illustration and Animation Senior Show from noon to 5 p.m. between the FA2 and FA3 buildings. Admission is free.

Bike class
Rideshare @ the Beach will hold free Traffic 101 bike classes from 6 – 8 p.m. in the Barrett Admin Center.

Woodwind chamber
The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music presents Woodwind Chamber in the Gerald Daniel Recital Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets are $7 for students and $10 for general admission.

'Beyond the Figurine'
Long Beach Museum of Art presents Gerit Grimm: "Beyond the Figurine, Contemporary Inspirations from the Museum's Collection" from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. located at 2300 E. Ocean Blvd. Admission is $6 to $7.

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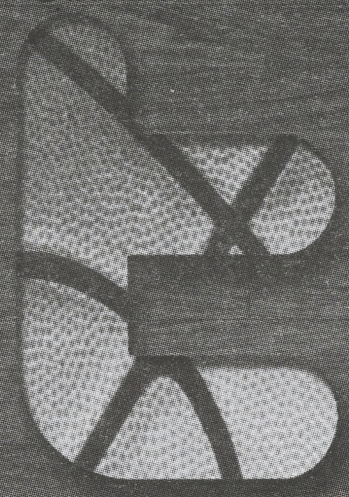

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Del Toro taking recognition in stride

The senior has made a name for herself by excelling in multiple events.

KIERNEY ROSS
Staff writer

LONG BEACH STATE ATHLETICS

Senior track and field athlete Rosa Del Toro (above) has taken a predominant role on the LBSU track and field team. She has competed, and set records in multiple events in 2012.

Rosa Del Toro has all the makings of a track superstar.

In fact, the senior track and field distance runner said she could describe herself in just three words: "determined, positive and focused."

Nothing keeps this Van Nuys-native from going for the gold.

In the 2012 season alone, Del Toro has been littering her name throughout the LBSU track and field record books.

Earlier this month, she finished the 5000-meter run with a personal-best 16:45.72 at the Stanford Invitational. That time gives her the third best mark in LBSU history.

On March 20 Del Toro was named Big West Conference Track Athlete of the Week when she finished third overall at the Aztec Invitational in the 1500-meter with a time of 4:29:36 — just .32 seconds away from her personal-best of 4:29:04 that she established last season.

"It feels good to have someone notice that you're putting in all this work, but it makes you want to work even harder." Del Toro said of claiming the title.

On April 1 at the Cal-Nevada Championships, Del Toro claimed the individual title in the 1500m with 4:28:44, topping her previous personal best by .92 seconds and ranking her fifth in LBSU history in that event.

Although the senior has made her mark on the school's record books, she pointed out that she has no big dreams of making it to the Olympics anytime soon.

"I just want to take things one step at a time," Del Toro said. "I just want to be able do well in both events [5000m and 1500m] and hit times that will get me into regionals or first-round nationals and see where I go from there."

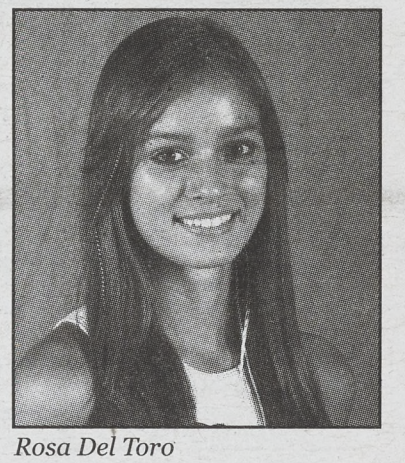
While the 1500m and 5000m are Del Toro's main events, she has also made outstanding appearances in other events such as the 3000m, the mile and the women's distance medley relay [DMR].

During the 2012 indoor season, Del Toro established a school-record 4:50.75 in the women's mile, finishing 16th at the University of Washington Invitational. She topped LBSU's previous record of 4:53.07 set by Missy Barclay in 2008.

That same day, the runner was also a part of the record-breaking women's DMR team, with Jessica Barnard, Chelsea Hairanian and Catherine Martinez. The squad sealed a program record when they crossed the finish line in 11:48.81 good for third overall in that particular meet.

Although, Del Toro's talent on the track is evident, the human development major explained that sometimes running is not all fun and games.

"I don't really have much time to do really anything [else] really," she said. " I love to read a lot but I'm always worried about school and running. And



Rosa Del Toro

running just kind of takes over."

Del Toro said that she often wakes up at 5:30 a.m. to complete an eight or nine mile run before she attends class. On average, she contributes about 70 to 75 miles a week and often 14 to 15 miles a day to running.

"Managing time [is difficult], but I'm a student athlete and you know we do what we have to do," Del Toro said.

Although time management is one of the challenges the senior faces, she pointed out that when it comes to running, just letting go and believing in herself is at times is her biggest roadblock.

"My coaches always tell me that I have the talent and all the physical effort to do it, but I just get scared to actually do it," Del Toro said. "But I think I am getting to that point now where I am starting to trust myself more."

Del Toro's next race will be on April 19 at the Mt. San Antonio College relays where she will compete in the 1500m.

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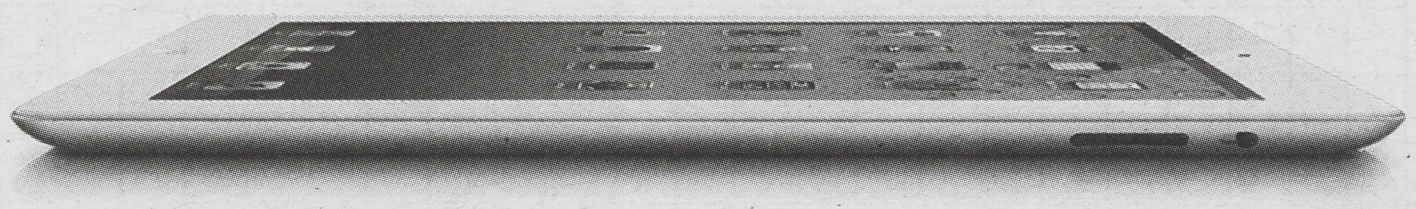

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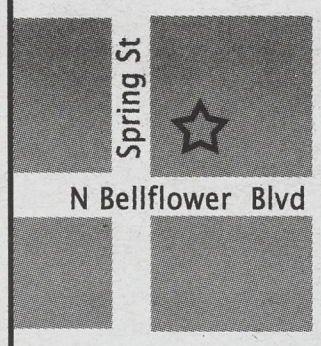

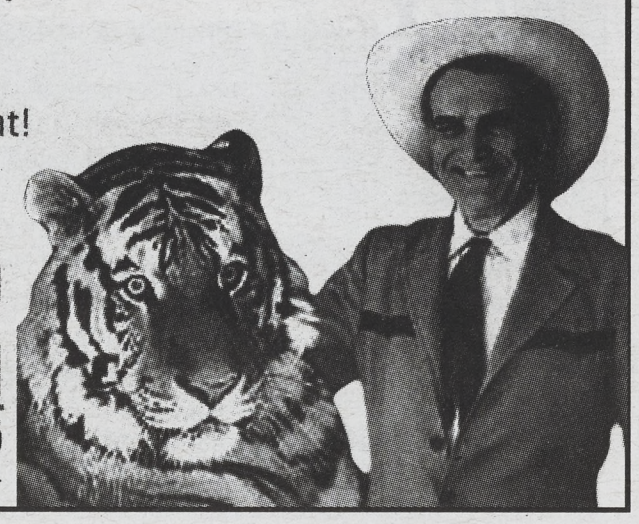

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